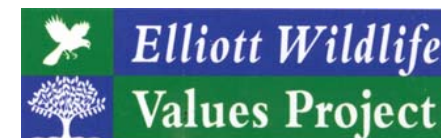




## Linking Girls to the Land

### 2005 Council Grant Summaries



From 2005-2006 twenty Girl Scout councils worked with federal and state natural resource agencies to complete projects focused on environmental education, outdoor skills development or volunteer conservation service that promotes career development and the preservation of wildlife and natural resources.

	State	Council Name	Project Summary	Number of Girl Scouts Served
1	OH	Girl Scouts of Appleseed Ridge	<p><b>Wetlands Alive</b> Girls researched, planned, and designed year one of a multi-year plan to create a diverse wetland lab located on a council camp property. The property consists of wetlands, prairie land, mature forests, emerging forests and a geo-sink. This acreage has been given a permanent environmental easement by the council. A wetlands boardwalk and education program was created. Girls and the community benefited by this project through participation in environmental education, career exploration, opportunities for recreational walking, access for research, as well as education for local land owners about the benefits of preservation.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Logan County Soil and Water, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency</p>	1,544
2	SD	Girl Scouts of the Black Hills Council	<p><b>Great Girl Scout Fish Capade</b> Girls studied water resource management in the Black Hills and participated in scientific data collection; developed fishing skills on both ice and open water; and participated in a career mentoring opportunity. Girls tested the condition of the water, identified and examined caught fish, studied the cycle of fish life, planned an educational fishing event at a hatchery and interacted with women in environmental careers. Girls benefited by understanding how the abundant wildlife in their scenic state should be preserved and how they can be advocates in this area.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks, United States Forest Service, Black Hills National Forest, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, United States Bureau of Reclamation, United States Fish and Wildlife Service</p>	101

3	DE	Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay Council	<p><b>Watershed Wonderland-The Delmarva Peninsula</b> Environmental education and watershed stewardship was offered to girls through a series of events aimed at engaging girls in the environmental heritage of the Delmarva Peninsula. Events focused on: wetlands, lakes, the Chesapeake Bay, marsh and swamp environments, understanding water conservation techniques, learning the life cycle of the Blue Crab and how fishermen earn a living, and science career exploration. Girls participated in a beach clean up at Cape Henlopen, weeded and re-planted a butterfly garden at Bombay Hook, and took energy pledges promising to use less water. Four Girl Scout Gold Awards were earned for projects impacting the environment. The project was part of a state initiative to strengthen the state's ability to help Girl Scouts earn service awards.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> Delaware Department of Natural Resources - Division of Parks and Recreation – Trap Pond State Park, Cape Henlopen State Park, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Bombay Hook Wildlife Refuge</p>	600
4	VA	Girl Scout Council of Colonial Coast	<p><b>E.E.L.S: Educating Environmental Leaders and Stewards</b> Lessons, lab training, outdoor skills, field trips and symposiums in local environmental areas were offered to girls ages 14-18. Topics covered wetlands, watersheds, water monitoring, wastewater treatment, nuclear power, recyclable paper, habitat stressors and career development. Girls became educators and learned to take ownership of the land by conducting workshops for younger girls, representing the council at community events, and completing service projects such as tree plantings and a National Park clean-up. The project culminated with a camping trip in Shenandoah National Park.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> National Park Service – Shenandoah National Park, Tidewater Community College, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality</p>	3135
5	AL	Girl Scouts of the Deep South Council	<p><b>Water, Water Everywhere</b> Girls planned and participated in overnight events focused on coastal environmental education, career exploration, endangered species, water pollution, wildlife nature hikes, advocacy and volunteerism (beach clean-up). Girls learned about local ecology and water pollution by creating their own watersheds and learning how industries affect the gulf coast environment.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> United States Fish and Wildlife Service - Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge</p>	400
6	WA	Girl Scouts Inland Empire Council	<p><b>Green It and Clean It</b> A community service project in conjunction with Earth Day that consists of Spokane River shoreline cleanup and council camp property cleanup, trail maintenance, and tree planting. The project increased girls' environmental awareness on topics from recycling to wildlife habitats and local and regional environmental issues, and fostered civic responsibility.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> United States Forest Service – St. Joe Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Riverside State Park</p>	254

7	MI	Girl Scouts of Michigan Pine and Dunes Council	<p><b>W.I.S.E. (Women in Scientific Endeavors)</b> An after-school science interest group that engaged girls in an in-depth study of the council's property with a focus on protecting and conserving the wetlands, watershed and natural habitats. Environmental education concepts were emphasized as well as scientific monitoring, testing and analyzing skills. Data collected was entered into the GLOBE worldwide and World Water Monitoring Day databases. Participants also became leaders of environmental action by facilitating workshops for other girls.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service-Freemont Field Office, Muskegon Conservation District</p>	238
8.	WI	Girl Scouts of Milwaukee Area	<p><b>Going Places...Saving Spaces</b> A program that connected girls to the land by integrating education, adventure, leadership, and service opportunities into existing summer camp programs: troop trips, resident camp and day camp. The goal was to instill a sense of stewardship and kindle an environmental ethic that will result in continued personal action for all participants. Girls hiked, biked, climbed and paddled through local waterways and other natural environments and learned an appreciation for the land, the necessity for conservation and how to communicate stewardship to others.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> United States Fish and Wildlife Service-Horicon National Wildlife Refuge, Take Pride in America. National Park Service – Ice Age National Scenic Trail</p>	319
9.	SC	Girl Scout Council of the Pee Dee Area	<p><b>Nurturing Nature</b> Girls learn to identify native plants and animals while improving and working on a five mile nature trail (clearing, identifying, signing and promoting the trail) and nature center at a state park. They were exposed to careers in science and natural resources.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> Cheraw State Park</p>	414
10	NC	Pines of Carolina Girl Scout Council	<p><b>Eco Challenge</b> An environmental education initiative that recognized the need to improve the quality of life in the state through stewardship and conservation of natural resources and how to balance population growth and development. Girls ages 7-17 explored ecosystems and links among natural resources; studied land and marine environments; and learned outdoor skills. Careers information was offered. Girls planned and implemented a service project at Clemmons State Forest and participated in an Environmental Education Week. The knowledge learned during these experiences is being applied in their own communities through back home projects.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> Clemmons Educational State Forest, United States Fish and Wildlife Service-Sandhills Sub Office</p>	947

11	WI	Girl Scouts of Riverland Council	<p><b>Environmental Awareness Day</b> A day to increase awareness of environmental issues and participate in a service project to benefit habitat on a local National Wildlife Refuge. A section of the refuge's prairie land was adopted by the council to be maintained by Girl Scouts in succeeding years.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> United States Geological Survey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge</p>	169
12	ND	Girl Scouts of Sakakawea Council	<p><b>Lap the Loop for Resource Conservation</b> A project that educates girls on the subject of fuel and its effects on the environment. It also allowed girls to be advocates by alerting the community about the need to reduce fuel consumption and pollution. Girls hosted and presented statistics at "Lap the Loop for Resource Conservation" community bicycle day.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> United States Environmental Protection Agency - Region VIII, North Dakota State Health Department, United States Forest Service-Grand River Ranger District , National Park Service - Theodore National Park, North Dakota State Capitol</p>	64
13	CA	Girl Scouts of San Geronio Council	<p><b>Cool Conservation</b> Girls planned an environmental fair that offered their families and Girl Scouts an opportunity to learn about issues surrounding water usage, pollution, and conservation as it relates to the communities in which they live. Through interactive learning stations and hands-on activities, girls and their families gained the knowledge to treat water resources with care and to pass on the message that conservation is cool.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> Bureau of Land Management –California Desert District Office, United States Forest Service, California Department of Fish and Game</p>	229
14	IL	Girl Scouts of Shagbark	<p><b>Aquatic Investigation</b> Girls improved water quality and created and enhanced habitats for native animals and plant species by creating a wetlands area at a Girl Scout camp. Girls increased their wetlands management, scientific research skills--including soil and water testing, and broadened their knowledge about aquatic habitats, native plants and animals and their inter-relationships within the aquatic ecosystem. Participants created field kits for other troops, hosted a community wide celebration and earned the Girl Scout Silver Award.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> Department of Natural Resources Region V, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Illinois Department of Natural Resources</p>	468

15	WV	Girl Scouts of Shawnee Council	<p><b>Getting Our Ducks in a Row</b> Habitat restoration of an open water emerging marsh at a Girl Scout camp provided opportunities for Girl Scouts and local students to learn about wetlands ecosystems, natural resource management careers and stewardship of wetlands areas, specifically as they apply to waterfowl. The project provided a habitat (nesting areas, water sources, feeding station, vegetation, etc.) for migratory and non-migratory birds. A viewing blind for wildlife observation with hands-on discovery stations (adapted for visually impaired persons) is to be developed in phase two of the project.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> United States Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA National Resource Conservation Service-West Virginia Field Office, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources</p>	829
16	IL	Shemamo Girl Scout Council of Illinois	<p><b>Make Daffodil Valley Bloom Again</b> A continuation of a four-year project to reclaim a 4.5 acre site, "Daffodil Valley," and an adjoining ten-acre parcel of privately-owned land into a natural habitat consisting of prairie, savanna, upland woods, bottomland, and wetlands for the release of injured and orphaned wildlife rehabilitated through the Illinois Raptor Center. Girls planted trees, identified plants and animals, adopted birds, including studying the migration patterns and the nocturnal behaviors of birds, and installed and maintained footpaths.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Illinois River National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Illinois Department of Natural Resources</p>	149
17	GA	Girl Scouts of Southwest Georgia	<p><b>Environmental Education and Career Center</b> A troop house and surrounding area -which consists of forest, lake and wetlands – was transformed into the Marge Dale Environmental Education and Career Center and an outdoor classroom. Girl Scouts, volunteers and community members who visited the camp were invited: to assist with camp clean up events, utilize the facilities to participate in hands on environmental activities, and to explore careers in the field of natural sciences. Girl Scouts also helped with Efforts focused on restoring the fragile balance of the local ecosystem, specifically the water resources.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> Georgia Department of Natural Resources -Albany Wildlife Resources Division</p>	531

18	KS	Girl Scouts of Sunflower Council	<p><b>Linking Girls to the Land in Northwest Kansas</b> Five-day environmental day camps and community service projects that helped natural resources in the community were offered. Camps taught Brownies about conservation, outdoor recreation, wildlife, watershed management and how they play an integral role in the protection of natural resources. The project also increased Girl Scout membership.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Great Plains Nature Center, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – National Weather Service, National Park Service – Nicodemus National Historic Site, Kansas State Forest Service</p>	143
19	NY	Thousand Islands Girl Scout Council	<p><b>Swallow-wort Spotters</b> Land conservation project to help stop the prolific spread of a non-native, noxious plant, swallow-wort, which is destroying native vegetation, preventing forest regeneration and disrupting natural habitats in three counties. Girls were trained to use global positioning devices to mark maps and flag sites. They met with conservationists, horticultural educators and outdoor enthusiasts learn about native plants, local wildlife species and conservation careers.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Region VI, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation</p>	198
20	IN	Girl Scouts of Wapehani Council	<p><b>Wet and Wild about Windigo</b> A project to help girls learn about and appreciate wildlife, nature, wetlands and natural resources through a series of hands-on workshops. Topics included: using field markings, identifying endangered animals and plant species, recognizing animal calls, and managing watersheds and wetlands. Girls also planted a nature garden and planned and developed a nature center at Camp Windigo.</p> <p><b>Federal or State Collaborating Agency:</b> Indiana Department of Natural Resources – Natural Resources Education Center</p>	276
			<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF GIRL SCOUTS SERVED</b>	<b>11,008</b>